

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 252820 TOSEC 160305

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:M. TANNER

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:M. TANNER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 252820 TOSEC 160305

FOLLOWING REPEAT MADRID 7410 SENT SECSTATE DATED OCT 23.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 7410

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SP

SUBJECT: FRANCO--PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF WORSENING CONDITION

SPANISH MEDIA HAS JUST CARRIED OFFICIAL GOS BULLETIN
ANNOUNCING THAT FRANCO'S CONDITION HAS SIGNIFICANTLY
WORSENER, GIVING PUBLIC CONFIRMATION OF INFORMATION
SENT OUR EARLIER FLASH MESSAGE. THE ANNOUNCEMENT SAID
THIS MEDICAL BULLETIN HAD BEEN SIGNED BY EIGHT DOCTORS,
WHICH SUGGESTS THAT FRANCO MAY HAVE REFUSED TO SIGN THE
PAPERS AUTHORIZING THE SUCCESSION AND THAT THE COMPLICATED
PROCESS OF DECLARING HIM INCAPACITATED TO RULE PERHAPS
HAS BEGUN. WE CAUTION THAT THIS IS ONLY SPECULATION,
AND THAT IT COULD ALSO SIMPLY BE PRELIMINARIES TO A
SUBSEQUENT ANNOUNCEMENT THAT FRANCO HAS AUTHORIZED THE
SUCCESSION.

STABLER UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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